

IN THE CLAIMS:

77. (Currently amended) An isolated fusion molecule comprising ~~an a~~ a human IgG heavy chain constant region sequence capable of binding to ~~an a~~ a human IgG inhibitory receptor directly functionally connected to ~~an a~~ a human IgE heavy chain constant region sequence capable of binding to ~~an a~~ a human IgE receptor wherein said fusion molecule is capable of binding both the IgG inhibitory receptor and the IgE receptor.

78. (canceled) ~~The fusion molecule of claim 77 wherein said IgG heavy chain constant region sequence and IgE heavy chain constant region sequence are directly fused.~~

79. (Previously presented) The fusion molecule of claim ~~77~~ 80 wherein said IgG heavy chain constant region sequence and IgE heavy chain constant region sequence are connected via a polypeptide linker of 5 to 25 amino acid residues.

80. (Previously presented) The fusion molecule of claim ~~79~~ 81 wherein said polypeptide linker consists of 10 to 25 amino acid residues.

81. (Previously presented) The fusion molecule of claim ~~80~~ 77 wherein said polypeptide linker consists of 15 to 25 amino acid residues.

82. (Canceled) ~~The fusion molecule of claim 77 wherein said IgG and IgE heavy chain constant region sequences are of human origin, and said IgG inhibitory receptor and IgE receptor are human.~~

83. (Previously presented) The fusion molecule of claim 77 wherein said IgG inhibitory receptor is a low affinity Fc γ RIIb IgG inhibitory receptor.

84. (Previously presented) The fusion molecule of claim 77 wherein said IgE receptor is selected from a high-affinity Fc ϵ RI receptor and a low-affinity Fc ϵ RII receptor (CD23).

85. (Previously presented) The fusion molecule of claim 77 wherein said IgG heavy chain constant region is selected from the heavy chain constant regions of IgG₁, IgG₂, IgG₃ and IgG₄.

86. (Previously presented) The fusion molecule of claim 85 wherein said IgG heavy chain constant region is an IgG₁ heavy chain constant region.

87. (Previously presented) The fusion molecule of claim 86 wherein said IgG₁ heavy chain constant region sequence consists of the hinge-CH2-CH3 portion of an IgG₁ heavy chain constant region.

88. (Previously presented) The fusion molecule of claim 87 wherein said hinge-CH2-CH3 portion of an IgG₁ heavy chain constant region is the amino acid sequence of SEQ-ED ID NO:3.

89. (Currently amended) An isolated fusion molecule comprising a human IgG heavy chain constant region sequence capable of binding to a human IgG inhibitory receptor directly functionally connected to a human IgE heavy chain constant region sequence capable of binding to a human IgE receptor wherein said fusion molecule is capable of binding to both the IgG inhibitory receptor and to the IgE receptor and The fusion molecule of claim 77 wherein said IgE heavy chain constant region consists of the CH2-CH3-CH4 portion of a native human IgE heavy chain constant region.

90. (Previously presented) The fusion molecule of claim 89 wherein said CH2-CH3-CH4 portion of a native human IgE heavy chain constant region consists of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:6.

91. (Previously presented) The fusion molecule of claim 77 covalently linked to a second identical fusion molecule to form a homodimer.

92. (Previously presented) The fusion molecule of claim 91 wherein said linkage is through one or more disulfide bonds.

93. (Previously presented) The fusion molecule of SEQ ID NO:7.

94. (Previously presented) The fusion molecule of claim 93 covalently linked to a second identical fusion molecule to form a homodimer.

95. (Previously presented) The fusion molecule of claim 94 wherein said linkage is through one or more disulfide bonds.

96. (New) An isolated fusion molecule comprising a human IgG heavy chain constant region sequence capable of binding to a human IgG inhibitory receptor directly functionally connected to a human IgE heavy chain constant region sequence capable of binding to a human IgE receptor wherein said fusion molecule is capable of binding to both the IgG inhibitory receptor and to the IgE receptor and wherein said IgG heavy chain constant region sequence consists of the hinge-CH₂-CH₃ portion of an IgG heavy chain constant region.